Central/State Governments. The Government has an extensive network of Short Stay Homes and Juvenile Homes for protection and rehabilitation of the victims. Government has also launched a new scheme known as 'Swadhar* for providing shelter, food, clothing, health care, pschyco-social counselling, vocational training and helpline services for rescued victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

Delay in grant for JRF

3206. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UGC has delayed in sanctioning grants to Junior Research Fellowship (Foreign Nationals Engineering and Technology and National Education Testing Qualified) during the year 2002-2003;

(b) whether the delay in sanctioning such grants is causing serious hardships for the scholars in carrying out the research work smoothly; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC releases Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) grants to universities/colleges/institutes after the receipt of the Joining Report and the Eligibility Certificate duly signed and forwarded by the competent authority. Next instalment of grant is released after the receipt of Utilization Certificate/Statement of Expenditure of the full previous grants. Since some of the universities did not submit the Utilization Certificate, the grant to such universities was not released by the UGC. The universities have been requested by the UGC to submit the Utilization Certificates to enable it to release further instalment of grant.

Sati incidents

3207. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Sati incidents that took place in the country since 1996, year-wise and State-wise;